

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 019799  
ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 INT-05 L-03 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /033 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:EESVENDSEN:JWM  
APPROVED BY AF/W:TWMSSMITH  
-----290347Z 096845 /62

R 281730Z JAN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 019799

FROM AF/W

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EMIN, BDIS, LI

SUBJECT: AZUZA MINING COMPANY

1. ON JANUARY 26 THREE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AZUZA  
MINING COMPANY, MESSRS. HATKOFF FATHER AND SON (PRESIDENT  
AND TREASURER RESPECTIVELY) AND MR. ROY WRIGHT CALLED ON  
THE DEPARTMENT TO DISCUSS THEIR COMPANY'S PLIGHT  
REGARDING THEIR EFFORTS TO OBTAIN A GOLD MINING CONCESSION  
IN LIBERIA. AZUZA CLAIMS IT OBTAINED PERMISSION FROM THE  
GOL ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO TO TEST AND DRILL FOR GOLD NEAR  
THE CAVALLA RIVER, AND IN FACT DISCOVERED A COMMERCIALLY  
VIABLE LODE. THEIR APPLICATION IN OCTOBER 1975 FOR A  
CONCESSION TO MINE AN 84.375 SQ. MI. AREA LOCATED NEAR  
THE IVORY COAST BORDER, HOWEVER, WAS BLOCKED BY LANDS  
AND MINES MINISTER AARON HOLMES, SUPPORTED BY MINISTER  
WITHOUT PORTFOLIO CHARLES CLARKE AND OTHERS. AZUZA HAS  
RETAINED SPEAKER HENRIES AS ITS LAWYER AND HAS RECEIVED  
ASSISTANCE FROM A.B. TOLBERT, BUT TO NO AVAIL SO FAR.

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2. AZUZA FEELS ITS CONCESSION APPLICATION IS BEING  
UNFAIRLY AND ILLEGALLY BLOCKED. AZUZA HAD NO OPTION TO  
DEVELOP ANY FIND IT MIGHT HAVE MADE. IT BASES ITS CLAIM  
ON PRIOR APPLICATION FOR THE AREA IN QUESTION. IT HAS  
RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MINISTER HOLMES STATING THE

CONCESSION CANNOT BE GRANTED BECAUSE OF CERTAIN VIOLATIONS  
OF LIBERIAN LAW, BUT THE LETTER DOES NOT SPECIFY AZUZA'S  
VIOLATIONS.

3. AS OF JULY 1976 AZUZA HAD INVESTED \$400 THOUSAND INTO  
THIS PROJECT. IT CLAIMS FURTHER INVESTMENT CAPITAL IS  
AVAILABLE IF IT OBTAINS THE CONCESSION. THE PROJECT WOULD  
REQUIRE \$2 MILLION AND 70 EMPLOYEES, TEN PERCENT OF THEM  
EXPATRIATE.

4. TO SUPPLY ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND, AZUZA WILL REQUEST  
ANOTHER HATKOFF SON NOW IN MONROVIA AND NAMED REID, THE  
COMPANY VICE PRESIDENT, TO PREPARE A BRIEF WHICH HE WILL  
SUBMIT TO THE EMBASSY SHORTLY. THE DEPARTMENT HAS AGREED  
ONLY TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM AND CONSIDER WHAT, IF ANY,  
ASSISTANCE THE USG MAY APPROPRIATELY GIVE. IN THE INTERIM,  
DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY BACKGROUND INFO EMBASSY  
CAN SUPPLY ON AZUZA AND ITS OFFICERS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MINING, GOLD, MINERAL RIGHTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE019799  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EESVENDSEN.JWM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 3639989  
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**Subject:** AZUZA MINING COMPANY  
**TAGS:** EMIN, BDIS, LI, AZUZA MINING CO  
**To:** MONROVIA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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